



Younger IK Groups- PreK- 1st grade

April 2, 2025

Bible Story: Giving- Matthew 6:1-4

Big Idea: God loves a giving heart.

The Win: Kids who can identify and take their next step of discipleship by embracing a preschooler's physical needs or engaging an elementary kid in things that interest them.

Wednesday Share:

Tonight during Impact Kids, we looked at Matthew 6:1-4. In this section of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus warns about doing good things like giving just to be noticed by other people. Hypocrites call attention to their gifts, but Jesus wants us to give privately so that our hearts are about giving...not about looking impressive. Ask God to show you if there's anything you need to do differently when it comes to giving. Is your heart coming from the wrong place? Do you need to give more sacrificially or more regularly? Pray as a family and ask God to help you know how everyone in your family can be part of the plan for how and when you give to the Lord.

Leader Devo:

<https://parkwaychurch.tv/blog/2025/03/26/apr-2>

Dig In to Prayer:

Ask God to help you create a culture where kids are excited about giving.

Quick Tip:

A lot of churches incentivize kids' giving to make it more fun. So you might offer a pizza party if they hit a certain dollar amount, or maybe you'll dye your hair neon green if they hit a goal. This may seem fun, and it certainly can be effective at getting kids to give more money. But when kids are offered rewards for giving, they lose the heart for why they're really giving. Instead, try talking regularly about where your offering money goes. Get kids excited about the mission. You'll have a chance to do that if you use the elementary-aged Deeper Bible for this lesson. (P.S. Children's Ministry Directors, make sure you check out that Deeper Bible so you can personalize it for your ministry! Then your teachers will be prepared to talk about where your offering goes.)

Wednesday Group Schedule

Leaders Arrive: 6:15 PM
Family Dinner: 6:30 PM – 6:50 PM
K-3rd Outside Play: 6:50 PM- 7:20 PM
4th & 5th Small Group: 6:50 PM- 7:30 PM
K-3rd Small Group: 7:25 PM- 8:00 PM
4th & 5th Outside Play: 7:30 PM- 8:00 PM
Dismiss: 8:00 PM- 8:05 PM

Low Energy Game:

Supplies

- yarn (about 5 feet for every 4 kids)
- curling ribbon (about 5 feet for every 4 kids)
- chenille wires (1 for every 2 kids)
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)

Easy Prep: Cut both the yarn and the curling ribbon into pieces approximately 5 feet long. You'll need 1 piece of yarn or ribbon for every 4 kids.

Talk About Gifts

Say: Everyone loves to get special presents! Share about a great gift someone has given you.

Ask: • Tell about a special present someone has given you. Give kids a few minutes to share about a special gift.

Say: It's fun to get presents, but it's fun to give to others, too. And giving isn't just about presents. There are all kinds of different ways we can give, like sharing our toys, helping a friend, or saying something kind. No matter what we give, God wants us to do it cheerfully and with a giving heart. God loves a giving heart.

Share a Heart

Say: Let's practice giving something with a game.

- Form leader-led groups, and have kids get in pairs within their group. If groups have an uneven number of kids, encourage leaders to join the fun.
- Give one child in each pair a chenille wire. Show kids how to make the wire into a heart by first bending it into a circle, and then pushing the top down a bit to create the top of the heart.
- Give each pair either a piece of yarn or a piece of ribbon, making sure each group has some of each. Have pairs stand at opposite ends of their yarn or ribbon.
- Show kids with the wire hearts how to hang them on the yarn or ribbon and slide them to their partners. To move the hearts down the yarn, kids will need to shake the yarn as well as hold it at an angle.
- Have kids move the hearts back and forth from partner to partner as time allows.
- About halfway through your time, encourage pairs who have yarn to trade with pairs who have ribbon, so everyone gets to experience both.
- If you'd like, play upbeat music while kids play.

Say: In our game, we shared a special fuzzy heart with a friend. Sometimes it was easy to share the heart. Sometimes it was a little harder. God loves it when we share with others, even when it's hard. God loves a giving heart!

Talk About Video:

Discuss and Watch "Kids Who Give"

Say: We're learning that God loves a giving heart.

Ask: • What are some ways people can give?

Say: Let's watch a video about kids who saved up money to give to something important.

Watch "Kids Who Give."

Ask: • Of all the ways kids raised money to give, which do you think you could do?

• One of the kids said that she "wanted to make a difference and be part of something so big." Why do you think it's important to give?

• What inspired you most about this video?

Say: God loves a giving heart. These kids all gave up something they wanted in order to give money that would help build new churches. They knew their gift would make a big difference. When you give to church, you make a big difference, too!

Deeper Bible:

Supplies

- Bible
- classroom toys (choose kids' favorites)

Talk About Sharing

Say: God loves it when we share with others. We can share lots of different things; some are easy to share, and some are a little harder to share.

Share about something important to you that might be hard to share. It could be your car, your favorite sweater, or a favorite book.

Ask: • What's your favorite toy? Allow kids to share about their favorite toys.

Say: It can be hard to share things that are really important to us. But God loves a giving heart. He loves it when we gladly share with others—even things that are special to us.

Think about the important thing you mentioned earlier. Tell about someone you could share this with.

Ask: • Who can you share your special toy with? Kids may say they can share with a sibling, cousin, or friend.

Practice Sharing

Say: We have lots of fun toys here in our classroom. Let's practice sharing as we play with them! We can even sing our special song to help us remember to share. Lead kids in singing the following song to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell."

God loves a giving heart!

God loves a giving heart!

We can share with everyone...

God loves a giving heart!

Bring out the classroom toys, and give kids some time to play. Regularly remind kids to share by inviting them to sing the song.

When it's time to clean up, say: Friends, you did a great job sharing toys today. You showed great big giving hearts! We can show giving hearts by helping each other, too. Let's help each other clean up the toys while we sing our song again. Sing the song a few times while kids clean up the toys.

Say: We practiced having a giving heart today. The Bible says that God's happy when we share with others. **Read Hebrews 13:16** aloud. Let's practice having a giving heart when we go home, too! God loves a giving heart. Lead kids to pray and ask God to give them a giving heart wherever they go.

Life Application:

Supplies

- small heart stickers with backing* (1 per child)

Get and Give

Say: Today we learned God loves a giving heart. Give each child a heart sticker. This sticker reminds us that it's exciting and wonderful to share what we have, whether that's our toys, our time, or our kindness. Since we're learning about giving today, let's think of someone we can give these fun heart stickers to this week.

Share who you want to give the sticker to and why. Ideally, it would be someone outside the class to model for kids to give to someone outside the class, too.

Ask: • Who can you give your sticker to today? Encourage kids to give to people outside the class, and ask them to tell why they want to give their stickers to those people.

Pray

Say: Now that we know who we want to give our stickers to, let's pray for those people! Lead kids in a brief prayer for the people the kids want to give the stickers to.

Say: Stickers are fun, and we might want to keep them, but we'll remember God loves a giving heart and have fun sharing our stickers today. I hope you'll come back next week and share how you felt using your giving heart!

Activity Page with a Point:

Younger Kids: Color a Coloring Page

Distribute the coloring pages and crayons.

Say: We're learning about a time Jesus stood up on a hill to teach a big crowd of people! He taught that God loves a giving heart. Let's color a woman generously giving her money.

Allow time for kids to color.

Older Kids: Do an Activity Page

Say: In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus taught that God loves a giving heart. Let's play a game and see what we can learn about that.

Distribute the activity pages and pencils. Kids will find partners and take turns connecting two dots side by side or up and down. If a child can connect the fourth wall on a square, he or she will write initials inside the box. The goal is to get the most boxes.

Ask: • When you saw the chance to finish a square, how did you decide whether to take it or let your opponent take it?

• If you let your opponent finish a square, you would have given up possible points. What are some things we might give up to show a giving heart? This is a thinking question, so help kids explore things we sacrifice out of loving care for others or obedience to God.

Say: God loves a giving heart. Let's give generously, even if it means we miss out on something!